Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph **[0007]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0007] In particular, the use of polling terminals in a patch panel and automatic documentation of configurational changes is disclosed in UK patent application GB2236398A to Carter et al, filed Sep. 29, 1989. "The Great Cabling Treasure Hunt" by Mary Jander, published Mar. 21, 1991 in Data Communications, discusses some ways in which software can help LAN administrators gain and maintain control over their organization's cabling resources. U.S. Pat. No. 5,483,467 to ~~Krupke~~Krupka et al. discloses a particular example of such an application in which a computer or microprocessor employs a scanner to continuously sense the interconnection arrangement or configuration of the LAN cabling. Much in line with the teachings of the Carter application, ~~Krupke~~Krupka discloses the logic circuitry of the computer or microprocessor receiving intermittent scanning inputs through a detection matrix to insure that the actual cabling configuration is in conformity with what is designed. The ~~Krupke~~Krupka scanner may provide an interconnection status output to the computer or to a dedicated output device. One type of dedicated output device for displaying the interconnection status of a LAN is an array of lights disposed in corresponding relationship to particular ports within the LAN.

Please insert the following paragraphs between paragraph **[0019]** and **[0020]**:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0019a] FIG. 1 is a schematic view of a first patch cord and a first probe tip in accordance with an embodiment of the invention;

[0019b] FIG. 2 is a schematic view of a second patch cord and a second probe tip in accordance with an embodiment of the invention; and

[0019c] FIG. 3 is a schematic view of a third patch cord and a third probe tip in accordance with an embodiment of the invention.

Please replace paragraphs **[0046] - [0047]** with the following rewritten paragraphs:

[0046] In one embodiment, shown schematically in FIG. 1, a diode is included in each of the cord plugs such that the diode is interposed between the plug extension, which is the conductive portion of the plug that contacts the port plate, and the plug plate at the back of the plug. This diode can be used to provide differentiation in the signal between the plug plate and the underlying port plate. Specifically, the port plate may provide an electrical signal which is an alternating current (AC) voltage, while the diode converts such AC signal to a pulsating direct current (DC) voltage provided at the plug plate. Thus, the system can determine whether a single probe element is touching a plug plate or the underlying port plate by whether the signal detected by the probe is DC or AC, respectively. To prevent confusion by the revisor, a port plate is not accessible by the probe element when there is an overlying plug extension (i.e. a plug is disposed in the corresponding port).

[0047] In a second embodiment, shown schematically in FIG. 2, the probe includes two distinct probe elements, one which electrically and/or mechanically cooperates only with the port plates and one which electrically and/or mechanically cooperates only with the plug plates. For example, the probe may have a pin-type probe element that can only engage the port plates and a coaxial probe element extension that can only engage the plug plates. The two probe elements of the second embodiment may emanate from different places in the probe housing or may diverge from a common connector to the housing.

Please replace paragraph **[0049]** with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0049] In another embodiment, shown schematically in FIG. 3, the network includes ports having ten-contact jacks compatible and connectable with ten-wire cords having a ten-contact plug at each end thereof. In such an embodiment, eight wires (and contacts) serve to transmit communications data between respective ports while the ninth wire/contact is reserved for the transmission of signals relating to the connection status of the network. In particular, the ninth contact in the port jack serves an analogous function to the port plate in the embodiments described above, a testing site associated with the port; thus, the presently described embodiment does not require any port plates or other conductive apparatus outside or adjacent particular data ports. Furthering the analogy to previously described embodiments, the ten-contact plug includes a plug plate on the back thereof for providing a probe-testing site when a plug is disposed within a port jack. The ninth contact of the jack is covered by a plug disposed in the jack so that it cannot be probed inadvertently when the plug is in place. There may be electrical hardware, such as a diode, between the plug/probe contact of the cable and the plug plate probe for differentiating the signal between the two testing sites and thereby permitting the probe to differentiate between the respective testing sites, or, as is shown in FIG. 3, distinct probe elements may be employed to indicate which type of testing site is being probed. Of course, the probe element(s) would be configured in such an embodiment to be compatible with the ninth jack contact and the plug plate.